

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 8-10 and 12 are presently active, Claims 2-3, 5, 7 and 11 having been canceled without prejudice, Claims 13-17 having been withdrawn from further consideration as directed to a non-elected invention, and Claims 1, 9 and 12 having been amended. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 4, 6, 8-9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ohsawa (U.S. Pat. No. 6,617,651). Claims 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohsawa and further in view of Houston (U.S. Pat. No. 6,703,673).

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1, 4, 6, 8-10 and 12, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection has been overcome because, in Applicant's view, amended independent Claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the applied references as discussed below.

Claim 1 recites "the area of the body region in contact with the first insulation layer is larger than the area of the body region in contact with the second insulation layer in a cross section along an extending direction of the word line". Instead, Fig. 4A of Ohsawa shows a cross sectional view of the Floating Body Cell (FBC) along a direction perpendicular to an extending direction of the word line, not a cross section along an extending direction of the word line. Thus, Ohsawa fails to teach or suggest "the area of the body region in contact with the first insulation layer is larger than the area of the body region in contact with the second insulation layer in a cross section along an extending direction of the word line" recited in Claim 1.

Further, Houston also fails to teach or suggest "the area of the body region in contact with the first insulation layer is larger than the area of the body region in contact with the

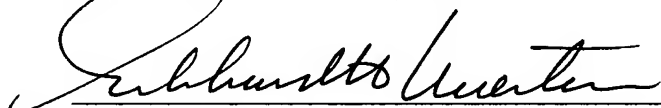
second insulation layer in a cross section along an extending direction of the word line”
recited in Claim 1.

Accordingly, independent Claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the applied references. Therefore, independent Claim 1 and pending Claims 4, 6, 8-10 and 12 dependent from Claim 1 are believed to be allowable.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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